

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01

COME-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03

OMB-01 PM-05 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00

ACDA-12 A-01 OPR-02 /115 W

-----084691 280917Z /15

O R 280810Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3796

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, ENRG, TH

SUBJECT: ENERGY INITIATIVES FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO ASEAN
AREA

REFS: (A) STATE 82633 (B) BANGKOK 9794 (C) JAKARTA 4498

(D) BANGKOK 11072

1. REF (A) OUTLINED VICE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL INTEREST IN IDENTIFYING AND POSSIBLY SUPPORTING TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF RENEWABLE AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY. IN REFS (B) AND (D) THE MISSION INDICATED THAT IT BELIEVED THAT THAI OFFICIAL WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO A DISCUSSION OF ENERGY COOPERATION ON BOTH A REGIONAL AND BILATERAL BASIS.

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2. IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN USAID/T DIRECTOR AND MINISTER OF INDUSTRY KASAME (ALSO GNERAL MANAGER OF ELECTRICITY GENERATING AUTHORITY OF THAILAND), DR. DASAME EMPHASIZED KEEN RTG INTEREST IN DEVELOPING JOINT EGAT-USAID BILATERAL PROJECT TO IDENTIFY AND TEST THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING A NUMBER OF THAILAND'S RENEWABLE AND NON-CONVENTIIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES.

INITIAL EGAT PROJECT CONCEPT INCLUDES:

(A) DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY INFORMATION AND RESEARCH FACILITY WITHIN EGAT THAT WOULD COLLECT, ANALYZE AND DISSEMINATE TECHNICAL ENERGY INFORMATION FROM NON-THAI SOURCES TO RTG AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS.

(B) FACILITY WOULD ALSO DEVELOP LIMITED RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION CAPABILITY SO THAT EGAT COULD TEST TECHNICAL AND SOCIAL APPROPRIATENESS OF SPECIFIC ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES WITHIN THAI SETTING.

(C) EGAT'S INITIAL DESIGN CALLS FOR FOLLOWING SECTIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THIS FACILITY: (A) ENERGY LAB, (B) ENERGY CONSERVATION GROUP, (C) EXPLORATION GROUP, (D) GEOTHERMAL ENERGY GROUP, (E) MINE-HYDRO ENERGY GROUP, AND (F) OIL SHALE AND TAR/SAND GROUP.

(D) PROJECT WOULD PROBABLY INVOLVE DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSE WORKING (SISTER) RELATIONSHIP WITH APPROPRIATE U.S. INSTITUTION, SUCH AS ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE, LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY OR SCANDIA LABORATORY. UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT, THERE COULD BE EXCHANGES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PROGRAMS, ETC.

3. ALTHOUGH USAID/EGAT PROJECT IS STILL AT INITIAL IDENTIFICATION STAGE, IT HAS ACCELERATED IN IMPORTANCE DURING PAST TWO WEEKS. GIVEN IMPORTANCE VICE PRESIDENT ATTACHES TO ENERGY MATTERS, HE MIGHT WISH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO RAISE THIS NEW PROJECT POSSIBILITY WITH PM. IF SO, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE NOTICE SO THAT PM KRIANGSAK'S STAFF CAN BRIEF HIM ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS PRIOR TO TALKS WITH VICE PRESIDENT. WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Litigation History:
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